

# Welcome from the PTA! Washington Elementary School



September 2015

Hello Washington Families!

We hope everyone had a wonderful summer! We would like to welcome new and returning families to Washington Elementary School! The Washington PTA invites you to join us in helping our children have a positive growing school experience. We've prepared this PTA Welcome Letter to provide you with helpful information about our PTA.

The PTA affords the opportunity for sharing thoughts and ideas about programs and activities that benefit children and families. Our PTA provides information and resources through: family programs, events, and the Washington Elementary School PTA Facebook page. We strive to keep open and frequent communication between our school and family communities.

We hope to expand our PTA membership and ask that you consider joining. This year the PTA will sponsor various events but we can't make these events happen without the support of volunteers --***we can use all the help we can get!*** We want to continue providing our family and student programs and welcome new suggestions for topics or programs of interest that you would like the PTA to consider sponsoring.

Our dues are only **\$6.00** per member. Through membership dues and fundraising efforts, the PTA is able to donate funds to purchase educational materials and equipment for the school. Parents, grandparents, or any adult 18 years of age or over may become a member of our PTA. You can join the Washington PTA by filling out the enclosed membership form. Remember to include your membership dues, and return it to school addressed to the Washington PTA. If you would like further information, feel free to contact any one of the PTA Board members listed below. We look forward to a great school year!

## 2015/2016 PTA BOARD MEMBERS

|                  |                |                       |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| President –      | Sara Austin    | sara.austin@uconn.edu |
| Vice-President – | Hassan Sultan  | b59hsult@mpspride.org |
| Secretary –      | Christina Blum | cblum@mpspride.org    |
| Treasurer –      | Kate Kantrow   | kkantrow@mpspride.org |

**FACEBOOK:** Search “Washington Elementary School PTA” group page and ask to be added

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# PTA Monthly Meeting Dates

Please mark your calendar with our monthly PTA meetings. Attending our meetings is a great way to stay informed and to connect with other Washington parents and staff. Special guest speakers will periodically join us to give us information about relevant topics. We plan to offer a snack during the 4:00pm meetings and dinner during the 6:00pm. We will also offer arts and crafts for the children. All of our meetings will alternate beginning at 4:00pm and 6:00pm to accommodate different commitments.

Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> – 4:00pm 1<sup>st</sup> Craft Activity: Rock Painting for our new school garden

Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> – 6:00pm

Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> – 4:00pm

Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> – 6:00pm

Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> – 4:00pm

Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> – 6:00pm

Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> – 4:00pm

Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> – 6:00pm

Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> – 4:00pm

Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> – 6:00pm

## 2015/2016 PTA Board Members Contact Information

|                |                |                       |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Co-Presidents  | Sara Austin    | sara.austin@uconn.edu |
|                |                |                       |
| Vice-President | Hassan Sultan  | b59hsult@mpspride.org |
|                |                |                       |
| Secretary      | Christina Blum | cblum@mpspride.org    |
|                |                |                       |
| Treasurer      | Kate Kantrow   | kkantrow@mpspride.org |
|                |                |                       |

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facebook

*Don't forget to join our group on FaceBook! Search for the "Washington Elementary School PTA" group page and ask to be added!*



# Washington PTA Calendar of Events 2015-2016

## August

8/27 First Day of School

## September

9/7 NO School - Labor Day

9/9 PTA meeting WED @4:00

9/16 Early Release (1:17pm)

9/16 Open House 6:00-7:30

## October

10/12 No School-Columbus Day

10/14 PTA meeting WED @6:00

10/21 Early Release (1:17pm)

## November

11/3 No School - Election Day

11/11 No School-Veteran's Day

11/18 PTA meeting WED @4:00

11/25 Early Release (1:17pm)

11/26-27 No School-Thanksgiving

## December

12/1-3 Conferences-Early Dismissal (1:17pm)

12/9 Early Release (1:17pm)

12/16 PTA meeting WED @6:00

12/24-1/1 Vacation Period

## January

1/13 PTA meeting WED @ 4:00

1/18& 1/19 No School

## February

2/3 Early Release (1:17pm)

2/10 PTA meeting WED @ 6:00

2/15-16 No School-President's Weekend

## March

3/9 PTA meeting WED @ 4:00

3/15-17 Parent-Teacher Conferences

3/23 Early Release (1:17pm)

3/25 No School-Good Friday

## April

4/20 PTA Meeting WED @6:00

4/11-15 Spring Vacation

## May

5/11 PTA meeting WED @ 4:00

5/2-6 Teacher Appreciation Week

5/18 Early Dismissal

5/30 No School -Memorial Day

## June

6/8 Final PTA meeting WED @ 6:00

6/9 Last Day of School/Early Dismissal (1:17pm)

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*\*List is subject to change - additions or deletions may occur throughout the year.*



# HPS PTA Volunteer Opportunities

## We need your help!



This year the PTA plans to sponsor various events and conduct several fundraisers but we can't make these events happen without volunteers! Your involvement can make a dramatic difference for our children, their teachers and the staff at Washington School. We have a variety of opportunities that will fit your schedule and interests.

**Please note that because we rely on volunteers to help with all of the following opportunities, certain events will not be held if we don't receive enough volunteer support.**

Below are some of the volunteer opportunities available. Kindly indicate if you would be willing to help with any of the events/programs below by checking the box(es) next to the ones of interest to you and return this form to the PTA by September 8, 2015.

**Thank you in advance for volunteering your time!**  
**Washington School PTA**

Volunteer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

| Event/Type of Position       | Volunteer |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Volunteer Coordinator        |           |
| PTA Membership Coordinator   |           |
| Box Tops                     |           |
| Book Fair(s)                 |           |
| Grocery/Store Reward Program |           |
| Movie Nights                 |           |
| Yearbook                     |           |
| Teacher Appreciation         |           |
| Yankee Candles               |           |
| Talent Show                  |           |
| Lyman Orchard Pies           |           |

**OTHER: please let us know if you want to help in any of the following ways:**

On-Call Volunteer: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone calls to schedule volunteers: \_\_\_\_\_

Carpentry needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Donations for auction or raffles: \_\_\_\_\_

Gardening Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

Have contacts at local restaurants: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there any other way you'd like to help? Additional suggestions or comments? Please let us know!

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# Join the Washington PTA



PTA Membership is \$6 per person. You can pay with cash or by check.  
Checks should be made payable to: Washington PTA.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to the office with payment in an envelope addressed to: Washington PTA

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## Why Join the PTA?

What is PTA? Why join PTA? The number one reason to join the **Parent Teacher Association** is to benefit your child. In doing so, you also help our school. But there are many more PTA advantages:

- **Get Connected.** There's no better way to know what's happening in your school.
- **Discover Great Resources.** The PTA offers a variety of programs designed for parents as well as students.
- **Tap into a Network.** PTA functions are opportunities to meet other parents and teachers, building rapport and discussing issues that are on your mind. Ideas, concerns, and experiences are shared.
- **Speak Up.** PTA can be a way for you to more effectively suggest change at your child's school.
- **Witness Improvement.** By getting involved at your child's school you'll be part of the solution, helping make positive changes. Local PTAs play an important role in fundraising to provide building improvements, curriculum-based programs, and social events.
- **Be a Role Model.** By becoming a PTA member, you'll be demonstrating to your child the importance you place on education.
- **Enjoy Substantial Benefits.** Individuals and local units can take advantage of a host of benefits from PTA membership including various discounts and offers.

*\*Adapted from the National PTA Website*